

Message

From: epa@lists.4cleanair.org [epa@lists.4cleanair.org]
on behalf of Miles Keogh [mkeogh@4cleanair.org]
Sent: 5/1/2020 7:51:57 PM
To: washington_update@lists.4cleanair.org; epa@lists.4cleanair.org; mjo@lists.4cleanair.org; members@lists.4cleanair.org
Subject: The Washington Update



Dear Friends & Colleagues,

On Monday, we start a weeklong celebration of clean air: Air Quality Awareness Week! Every day, NACAA will be tweeting clean air messages (follow @WeAre4CleanAir!) and sharing your agencies' messages about ways to prevent air pollution too. It's a great week for us all to talk to people about clean air (and I bet most folks will be happy to hear about anything that doesn't start with "Corona-".) This year is especially exciting as we near the December 31 birthday of the Clean Air Act, which has been the bedrock of our shared mission for a half-century. Thanks to the Clean Air Act, most Americans understand that they can and should be protected from air pollution, and it's one of the most successful and beneficial laws ever passed by Congress. The story was nearly very different – starting in 1980, ten years after it passed, it faced a decade of political battling that, rather than strengthening it, nearly ended it. I recently enjoyed reading former Congressman Henry Waxman's book "The Waxman Report: How Congress Really Works", and Chapter 5 is all about the decade of Capitol Hill maneuvers that turned an effort to eliminate the Clean Air Act into the passage of the 1990 amendments that strengthened its protections. I won't give you a full book review (jeez, go get your own copy from your public library), but despite being largely about congressional hearings, strange alliances, opportunistic deal-cutting, and the occasional roll-call vote, I can tell you it's a ball of great yarns with suspense, drama, and humor galore - it's a real page-turner. Spoiler alert: Chapter 5 has a happy ending. The act repeatedly survives attempts to gut it (in one case, by a single vote), and comes out stronger and more protective than ever. As a result our clean air story is one about tens of thousands of seniors who've led happier, healthier lives, about a lot of kids who never ended up in emergency rooms, and about distant horizons that we can see again, more clearly every year. All thanks to the work you do. That doesn't mean we're done fighting air pollution, but during Air Quality Awareness Week I think it's a fight worth celebrating.

Here's what's in this week's *Washington Update*:

- EPA Publishes PM NAAQS Proposal in *Federal Register*; Public Hearing Teleconference May 20-21, Comments Due June 29
- EPA Science Advisory Board Weighs in on "Science Transparency" Proposal and Supplement
- EPA Releases Complete 2017 National Emissions Inventory
- Final "SAFE" Vehicles Rule Published in *Federal Register*
- First Challenge to "SAFE" Vehicles Rule Filed in D.C. Circuit, Alleges Rule Is Too Stringent and Unsafe
- EPA Releases Complete 2017 National Emissions Inventory
- House, Senate Efforts Highlight Links Between Environmental Justice and Pandemic
- Senator Warns EPA Against Making COVID-19 Enforcement Discretion Permanent
- California Proposes to Amend ZEV Requirements of State's Proposed Advanced Clean Trucks Rule
- EPA Announces Availability of EJ Grants to Assist Communities Facing COVID-19

Next week's events – including celebrating Air Quality Awareness Week – are linked in *The Week Ahead*. Next week we have a members-only webcast hosted by the NACAA Training Committee on how to run public meetings virtually, on Monday May 4 – it'll be awesome! On Tuesday May 5 we've got our rescheduled SAFE Rule briefing hosted by NACAA's

Climate Change and Mobile Sources & Fuels Committees. Wednesday, May 6, the NACAA Enforcement Committee has its regularly scheduled call. Please look for the details on [Air Web](#).

Read NACAA's *Washington Update* here:

<http://www.4cleanair.org/sites/default/files/Documents/050120wklyupdate.pdf>

Happy Friday, friends, however you spend it!

Wishing you well, Miles

Miles Keogh
Executive Director
National Association of Clean Air Agencies
1530 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 320
Arlington, VA 22209
(571) 970-6975
mkeogh@4cleanair.org
www.4cleanair.org
[@WeAre4CleanAir](#)